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SRI T. NAGI REDDI :—" రోడ్లు బాగుండలేదని, వాటిపై నిత్యం ప్రయాణం చేసే ప్రజలు అంటున్నారు. కాదు బాగున్నదని ఇంజనీర్లంటున్నారు. రోడ్లు సరిగా ఉన్నదీ లేనిదీ తెలుసుకొనటకు ఇంజనీర్లు కావాలా? "

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Sir, the opinion of the Engineering department is that the condition of the road is good. If the hon. Member is satisfied with it he might better accept it."

Former Pudukkottai State Government dispensaries.

* 285 Q.—SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government propose to convert the former Pudukkottai State Government dispensaries into district board dispensaries in Pudukkottai Division, Tiruchirappalli **district**;

(b) if so, the names of such dispensaries; and

(c) the reasons for such conversion?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (a) The answer is in the negative.

" (b) & (c) Do not arise."

Allegations against the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kovvur, West Godavari.

* 286 Q.—SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government received any representations complaining against the action of the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kovvur, West Godavari district, in appointing a dealer of his own choice for the Fair Price Shop at Kovvur town (Ward No. 1) when all people in the ward unanimously opposed his appointment; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (a) Yes. A representation was received by the Government on 8th November 1952.

" (b) The Government have examined the objection and considered that the objection is not valid in view of the fact that the dealer who has been appointed, is also a Harijan and holds a licence under the Madras Foodgrains Control Order. It is incorrect to say that all the people in the ward unanimously opposed the appointment."

SRI M. RAJESWARA RAO :—" Is the Government aware of the fact that the newly appointed dealer was out of the picture by the time the Taluk Supply Officer sent his report to the Revenue Divisional Officer, Kovvur? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am really unable to understand the phrase ' out of the picture ', Sir."

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JANAB M. S. MOGRAL :—" May I know, Sir, whether the Revenue Divisional Officers are bound to accept the wishes of the public in making such appointments? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, suitability of the applicant is taken into consideration in making the appointments. Whenever there is a dispute, the District Collector also comes into the picture and he has to finalise the appointment."

SRI T. VISWANATHAM :—" The question is whether the gentleman who has been given this licence is still doing the trade? " 2–10 p.m.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I think so; that is why the question has arisen."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" If a particular person does not command the confidence of majority of the people whom he is supposed to serve, will the Government then consider the desirability of withdrawing such a person, as a matter of policy? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" If there is any valid objection against any dealer, certainly he will be removed. But no vote is taken to find out as to who gets the majority support in a particular ward."

SRI P. RAMAMURTHI :—" In view of the fact that a lot of corruption is going on as far as fair price shops are concerned and in view of the fact that most of the grains that are supplied to them find their way to the blackmarket, will the Government now consider the desirability of seeing that such people are appointed in whom the people of the locality whom they are supposed to serve, have got the confidence? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Whenever instances of corruption or blackmarketing are brought to the notice of the Government, we take very serious action. There is no use making sweeping allegations that every fair price shop dealer is a blackmarketer or that he is corrupt."

' Periyakavundan Anicut ', Musiri taluk.

* 287 *Q.*—SRI P. RANGASAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether ' Periyakavundan Anicut ' across the ' Ayyar River ' in No. 91. Balakrishnampatti village, Musiri taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, was washed away in 1941 and again in 1946;

(*b*) what is the total acreage of lands irrigated by the water diverted by the said anicut from the river;

(*c*) whether the Government received any representation from the ryots regarding the reconstruction of the said anicut; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to reconstruct the anicut, and if so, what the estimated cost is and when the construction will be finished?